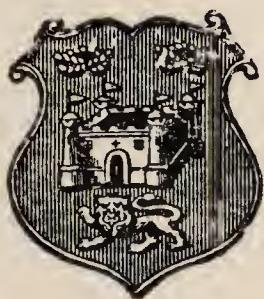


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**BOROUGH OF STAFFORD**



**THE  
HEALTH  
OF  
STAFFORD**

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**1961**

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**BOROUGH OF STAFFORD**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER**

**OF HEALTH**

TOGETHER WITH

**THE REPORT OF THE**

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

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**1961**

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# BOROUGH OF STAFFORD

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : ALDERMAN A. E. COLLINS

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR T. A. EVANS

### *Aldermen and Councillors*

C. H. MERREY, J.P. (Alderman)  
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S. J. KELLY  
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H. R. NIXON  
N. L. POTTER  
R. L. TYLER

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

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*Medical Officer of Health :*

W. D. H. McFARLAND, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time) :*

A. V. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector :*

F. G. ASHCROFT

Cert. R. San. Inst., and Certified Meat Inspector

*Senior Public Health Inspector :*

G. ATHERTON

Cert. S.I.B., and Certified Meat Inspector

*Additional Public Health Inspectors :*

K. A. SIMS, Cert. S.I.B.

A. MORRIS, Cert. S.I.B.

*Analyst :*

A. HOULBROOKE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

County Buildings, Stafford

*Chief Clerk :*

Mrs. H. N. Jackson

*Clerks :*

T. T. Williams

Miss J. Jones

*“Let the bold and the busy hunt glory and wealth,  
All the blessing we ask is the blessing of health.”*

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,  
5 MARTIN STREET,  
STAFFORD.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the 84th Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for 1961.

The mid-year population of Stafford is estimated as 47,110. This means that in the last ~~two~~ years there has been an increase of 7,000—in the last twenty years an increase of 8,350 and in the last forty years 18,020. The population at the beginning of the century was 20,538. There has been a natural increase (births minus deaths) of 322 in 1961.

It is rather interesting to read in the Annual Report of the Health of Stafford for the year 1900—the Medical Officer of Health seemed to be a little concerned about the downward trend in the number of births. “It is an experience which is being noted throughout the country,” he says. “This declining birth rate is a matter of grave importance . . . . Our national progress cannot continue with a declining population.” I seem to remember a similar scare just before the last war when it was heavily predicted that the population for England and Wales was beginning to decline and woe betide the future of this country. Sir Alan Herbert wrote some verses on this subject and read in the House of Commons during the debate on the subject :—

“In 1937 was a rumour going round  
That Income Tax was soon to be six shillings in the pound ;  
The cost of education every season seemed to swell ;  
And to everyone’s astonishment the population fell.

Five hundred brand-new motor cars each morning rode the roads,  
And flashed about like comets or sat motionless as toads ;  
Whichever course they took they made the public highway hell,  
And everybody wondered why the population fell.

Great science nobly laboured to increase the people’s joys  
And every new invention seemed to add another noise,  
One was always on the telephone or answering the bell,  
And everybody wondered why the population fell.”

Apart from the fear of a falling population, how much more topical are these comments today, even beyond the most vivid imagination of 1937. The cost of education has now nearly swollen to bursting point, the public highway is beyond description, noises are undoubtedly an abomination, but the population is not falling, nor is income tax anything near six shillings in the pound.

This prophesy of a falling population just goes to show how human nature can baffle the wise predictions of our statisticians. At times, unpredictable factors seem to creep in which tend to upset the numerical apple-cart. Statistics are revealing though not necessarily proof—they do, however, point a finger at something which rouses an enquiring mind and stimulates interest.

Today, with the birth rate rising and the death rate pretty static, as it has been for many years, one tends to wish for a steady population in an island limited in size and with, at the moment, little bright prospect of any new natural resources. This increasing population is the logical outcome of advances in hygiene and medicine. To think in terms of world population for a moment, it is a sobering thought that, according to the prediction of Sir Charles Darwin, the numbers of mankind are increasing at such a rate the world will have doubled its population in fifty years' time.

The number of births in Stafford over the last three years is the highest on record, topping the 800 mark, while in 1961 twenty-one children died before their first birthday.

The average age at which males died in 1961 was 61 years and females 71 years. Thirty-two per cent of males died before the age of retirement or pension, and up to the age of 75 years, 50% more males died than females. The highest number of male deaths occurred during the decade beginning at 65 years and females beginning at 75 years.

With 13,811 inhabited houses in the Borough and a population of 47,110, there are, on an average, 3.4 persons per house.

“The control of infectious diseases marks the greatest human success yet achieved in the control of our environment to our own benefit”—Sir Macfarlane Burnet.

We have, however, reached a time when the individual must play a greater part in the campaign for better health if the incidence of disease is to be still further diminished. This brings to mind an infectious disease which, a few years ago, brought death or a crippling paralysis amongst us within a few hours—POLIOMYELITIS. Today we have the simplest of simple answers—swallowing a small cube of the best sugar with three drops of vaccine on it. The taste of the vaccine is not discernable, nor are there any after effects. It does not go off “Pop” inside, although watching the expression of a lot of faces they seem to anticipate the worst.

Up to this moment the County Council have held monthly open sessions in two parts of the town since the beginning of May, where any member of the public under 40 years of age can walk in and be immunized without waiting five minutes. The response has not been very encouraging. Surely it does not require the death of a well-known public figure to waken the conscience of the public and rouse them into seeking their own protection and that of their family. Whenever a catastrophe like this does happen then there is a panic, and the medical profession are expected to forget all other work and be at the beck and call of those who seem to be unable to plan their own lives for tomorrow. An ounce of thought would save a pound of anxiety.

During the year there were seven cases of Poliomyelitis and for various reasons none of the persons concerned had been immunised. Sewer swabs from the associated school revealed positive cultures. Spot faecal samples from children in various parts of the town revealed another potential source of infection but strict hygienic measures were instituted in the associated school which may, or may not, have been the reason for no clinical cases in that area.

Radiation is, at the moment, a subject very much to the fore, chiefly because of the world-wide news and alarm created by nuclear bomb explosions. Some think that we are now being subjected to radiation for the first time. Others, knowing that X-rays and radiation are a potent source of radiation, might consider that it started on the discovery of these in the late 1890's. Both of these impressions are wrong since man, and indeed all forms of life, have been subjected to low levels of radiation from primeval times. In fact, it is stated that "one may even postulate that the very existence of man depends on gene mutations caused by radiation in the animal from which he evolved."

It might be helpful to review, in a very general way, the source of radiation to which man is subjected and mention some of the peaceful uses of radiation and radioactive substances.

By far the largest amount of radiation that the human body is subjected to comes from natural background sources. These include cosmic rays from the sun, and radiation from the air that surrounds us, the earth (soil and rocks) that we walk on, the food that we eat, the water that we drink as well as, of course, radiation from our own bodies or "personal radiation."

Cosmic radiation varies from country to country, some receiving it up to ten times more than others, such as in Bolivia and Tibet, where it is exceptionally high. Radon and thoron gases escaping from the ground cause the air to be naturally radioactive.

Soil and rocks contain thorium uranium and granite, all of which emit radioactive particles. The amount of radiation in Cornwall is, for example, quite considerable. These radioactive substances are also contained in plaster and building material, so the level of radiation tends to be higher indoor than outdoor. Also, it is recorded that the radiation from a brick house in London is a quarter and in Leeds three-quarters that of a granite house in Aberdeen.

Natural radioactive material in the soil is washed into the rivers and streams and so into the drinking water. Some rivers in Britain are said to contain fifty times as much radio active material as others, and the amount of radium tends to be higher in spring water than tap water.

Measurements have been made of the natural radioactivity of the food we eat. Fruit, vegetables, meat, fish and milk contain a low amount, sometimes hardly measurable. Containing a hundred times greater radiation than these are biscuits, bread, chocolate, peanuts and flour, whereas shell fish and certain breakfast cereals are five hundred times greater. Brazil nuts and any confectionery made from them, top the lot, being twenty thousand times greater than fruit, etc. Mayneord and his associates reporting the above on naturally occurring radioactivity in foods found that the radioactivity from a single meal of brazil nuts could be a hundred times as much as the present intake of strontium 90 from fall-out. They also state that "If the present level of strontium 90 in food in this country represents a radiation hazard, and it probably does to the armchair calculator—then the whole process of eating food must be regarded as a highly dangerous pastime. This is surely absurd." I think it is generally recognised that the human body has the amazing ability of rejecting what it does not require or otherwise establishing an equilibrium. Finally, in this section there is personal "radiation" and for those that are interested, it is supposed to be related to potassium—40 and carbon—14.

The next largest source of radiation that man is exposed to is from diagnostic radiology and radiotherapy. These constitute, in this country, just over 19% of the natural background, but in some countries is equal to it. We are all familiar with X-rays and when we consider that this is the amount an average person receives, then obviously some receive considerable doses and some very little, if any. It is interesting to see recorded that in the original primitive machine at University College Hospital, London, in 1896, the rays were so feeble that exposures up to 30 minutes were often used, resulting in frequent burns. This gave the first potential warning of the dangerous qualities of X-rays. Radium was introduced soon afterwards but is now largely replaced by radioactive isotopes, a by-product from splitting atoms.

This ability of splitting atoms can, on one hand produce products which add tremendously to man's health and welfare, and on the other hand are a means of producing untold destruction and loss of life. Actually, some of the radioactive isotopes which would come down and threaten our existence if a nuclear bomb was dropped, are used in smaller amounts for diagnostic and curative purposes in medicine today. For example, radioactive iodine is used in diagnosing and treating cases of thyroid gland disease and diagnosing certain blood diseases. The same Iodine—131, falls during the second stage of a nuclear explosion. Also Caesium 137, another fall-out product, together with Cobalt 60, have largely replaced the old radium.

Radioactive isotopes have many peaceful uses. They are also called "tracers" and have been described as radioactive atoms "which carry their own radio transmitter." They have also been likened to alpine cow bells, and so with suitable instruments can easily be detected both in position and concentration. Because of this they are used in epidemiological studies, tracing the movements of mosquitoes, flies, cockroaches, rats and rabbits. Much experimental work on meat, fish and dried eggs preservation and sterilization has been done over the years. If harmful and putrefactive germs can be killed, then food is obviously safer and can be kept for longer periods. The same can be achieved if insects infecting stored products, such as grain, flour and cereals, can be killed.

Finally, there is a small percentage of radiation from occupational exposure, luminous watches and clocks, television tubes, shoe fitting fluoroscopes, atomic waste disposal and, of course, radioactive fall-out. The Medical Research Council in their report on the Hazards to Man of Nuclear and Allied Radiation (1960) states that the radiation from "Fall-out" (mean 1955-59) was 2.4% of the radiation from natural background.

I have written quite a lot about radiation in an endeavour to put the subject into perspective. Let me end by being reassuring and quoting the Medical Research Council who have stated that "the total average dose received from all sources is well within the safety limit." Nevertheless, I am sure it is accepted by everyone that all possible extra radiation should be avoided.

In conclusion, I am very grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and interest, the General Practitioners for their kind co-operation, and a special thanks and acknowledgment of excellent service to each and every member of the staff.

W. D. McFARLAND,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# REPORT

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

Live Births :		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	438	383	821
Illegitimate	...	22	11	33
		—	—	—
		460	394	854
		—	—	—

### Birth Rate

The birth rate is 17.9 per 1,000 estimated population.

### Illegitimate Live Births

The illegitimate live births per cent of total live births is 3.86.

### Deaths

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths from all causes	... 262	270	532

### Death Rate

The death rate is 11.3 per estimated 1,000 population.

### Principal Causes of Death

The principal causes of death, together with the percentage of total deaths, are given as follows :—

Heart Disease	...	...	143	...	26.88%
Cancer	...	...	76	...	14.32%
Bronchitis and Pneumonia			47	...	8.83%

### Cancer of Lungs

There were 12 cases—all males. The average age at death was 59 years 10 months.

### Cancer

The average age of persons dying from all forms of Cancer was males 61 years 6 months and females 63 years 9 months. 76 persons died from this disease.

**TABLE No. 1**  
**Death Rates and Average Age at Death**

Year	Average Population	Average No. of Deaths per year	Death rate per 1,000	Average Age at Death—Years	
				Male	Female
1886-87	19.614	275	14.054	30	31
1888-90	19.171	273	12.37	25	37
1891-93	18.579	270	14.53	31	34
1950-52	40.306	392	9.73	64	63
1953-55	40.993	512	12.50	63	69
1956-58	42.146	485	11.12	62	65
1959-61	45.220	548	12.22	63	68

**TABLE No. 2**  
**Age and Incidence of Death**

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 4 weeks	12	5	17	3.2
4 weeks—1 year	4	—	4	.75
1—4 years	2	1	3	.56
5—14 years	2	1	3	.56
15—24 years	7	1	8	1.50
25—34 years	1	—	1	.18
35—44 years	8	4	12	2.25
45—54 years	20	17	37	6.95
55—64 years	49	34	83	15.60
65—74 years	68	52	120	22.56
75—84 years	67	104	171	32.18
85—94 years	22	47	69	12.97
95—99 years	—	3	3	.56
100 + years	—	1	1	.18

**TABLE No. 3**  
**Number of Deaths per month—Years 1957 - 1961**

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
January	37	75	57	49	69
February	26	53	60	51	62
March	26	50	64	64	37
April	33	44	38	40	38
May	34	42	39	41	39
June	34	41	36	31	34
July	23	42	39	41	35
August	32	42	39	41	25
September	42	29	34	45	42
October	53	36	43	38	37
November	43	31	48	38	60
December	44	62	44	45	54

### **Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)**

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	15	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—
			—	—	—
			16	5	21
			—	—	—

### **Infant Mortality Rate**

24.59 of all infants per 1,000 births.

### **Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)**

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	9	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—
			—	—	—
			10	4	14
			—	—	—

The Death Rate is 16.39 per 1,000 live births.

.445 per 1,000 population.

### **Still Births**

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	—
			—	—	—
			9	6	15
			—	—	—

### **Still Birth Rate**

The Still Birth Rate is 17.26 per 1,000 (live and still) births.

.318 per 1,000 population.

### **Causes of Infant Mortality**

#### **UNDER FOUR WEEKS**

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Spina bifida	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Haemorrhagia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hydropsfoetalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Placental Insufficiency	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### **FOUR WEEKS TO TWELVE MONTHS**

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Disease of the Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mongolism	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough (acres) ... ... ... ... ...	5,089
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1960 ...	47,110
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1961) according to rate books ... ... ... ... ...	13,811
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1961 ... ... ...	£704,222
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1960-61 ... ...	2,849
The total of 13,811 inhabited houses is made up as follows :—	
Houses ... ... ... ... ...	13,508
Farmhouses ... ... ... ...	19
Licensed Houses ... ... ... ...	71
Shops with living accommodation ... ...	213

## SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA

The following survey of the Social Conditions existing in Stafford has kindly been supplied by the Manager of the Employment Exchange :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Engineering (all types) ... ... ...	10,121	2,522	12,643
National and Local Government (including Education) ... ... ...	3,160	2,369	5,529
Distributive Trades ... ... ...	1,251	1,556	2,807
Abrasive and Cast Concrete Products ...	1,496	479	1,975
Building and Civil Engineering ...	1,719	39	1,758
Transport and Communications ...	1,472	267	1,739
Agriculture and Forestry ...	1,357	156	1,513
Shoe Manufacture ... ...	600	828	1,428
Vehicles ... ... ...	555	48	603
Chemicals and Oil Products ...	352	162	514
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	354	100	454
Saw Milling and Machine Woodworking ...	265	66	331
Insurance and Banking ... ...	193	134	327
Gas and Electricity ... ...	289	26	315
Salt Production ... ...	150	50	200
Printing ... ...	105	66	171
Miscellaneous ... ... ...	604	720	1,324

## DISABLED PERSONS

### Rehabilitation, Training and Employment

The services of the Disablement Resettlement Officer at the Ministry of Labour, 132 Newport Road, Stafford, are available to all persons requiring advice or assistance on any matter concerning the welfare and employment of the disabled. Courses of industrial rehabilitation are arranged for men and women who have suffered illness or injury and need help in bridging the gap between recovery and return to work.

Government Vocational Training Schemes, administered by the Ministry of Labour, aim to give an intensive grounding in both practical skills and the theoretical knowledge necessary to enable trainees to undertake work in a trade. A wide variety of training trades are available to suitable applicants under the Disabled Persons Scheme, about which full details may be had from the Disablement Resettlement Officer.

A specialist employment service is available to disabled work-people and employers requiring assistance.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

The following is a list of the voluntary organisations in Stafford :—

- British Red Cross Society
- Council of Social Service
- Darby and Joan Club
- Littleworth Veterans
- Littleworth Community Centre
- Older Friends League
- Pennycrofts Pensioners' Association
- Red Cross over 60's Club
- Social Service Old Folk's Club
- Sandon Road Forget-me-Not Club
- Stafford Chiropody Service
- Stafford Rotary Club
- Stafford and District League of Friends for Hospitals
- Stafford Branch of the National Association of Old Age Pensioners
- Women's Voluntary Service

—○— ○— ○—

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES**

### **Laboratory Facilities**

During the year 703 reports were received from the Public Health Laboratory where bacteriological examinations are carried out.

I would like to thank Dr. Mackay-Scollay for his wholehearted co-operation.

### **Ambulance Service (Staffordshire County Council)**

The Ambulance Station is situated at The Beeches, Stone Road, Stafford.

### **Ante-Natal Clinics (Staffordshire County Council)**

These Clinics are held at the Welfare Centre, North Walls, and the Welfare Centre, Rising Brook.

### **Home Help (Staffordshire County Council)**

The number of Home Helps employed is 80.

### **Immunisation (Staffordshire County Council)**

Immunisation is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres or by Family Doctors.

### **Welfare Centres (Staffordshire County Council)**

The Child Welfare Centres, North Walls and Rising Brook.

### **Clinics**

School Clinic, Lammascote Road, Stafford.

Chest Clinic, Staffordshire General Infirmary.

### **Maternity Homes (Hospital Management Committee)**

Burton House, Moss Pit, Stafford.

### **Hospitals**

Staffordshire General Infirmary, Foregate Street.

Fernleigh, Marston Road.

St. George's Hospital, Gaol Square, Stafford.

### **Venereal Diseases**

Staffordshire General Infirmary.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### Diphtheria

There have been no confirmed cases of Diphtheria in the Borough for the tenth year in succession.

The County Council is responsible for Immunisation and have kindly supplied the following statistics for the Borough :—

TABLE No. 4

### Diphtheria Immunisation, 1961

<i>School</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Re-inforcing</i>
St. Leonard's Avenue Infants'	1	10
St. Leonard's Avenue Junior	2	30
St. Austin's ... ... ...	3	38
Brooklands ... ... ...	—	—
Corporation Street Infants'	26	49
Corporation Street Boys' ...	3	63
Corporation Street Girls' ...	2	43
Doxey ... ... ...	11	32
Littleworth, St. John's ...	15	54
Forebridge ... ... ...	5	20
Girls' High ... ... ...	1	43
Leasowes ... ... ...	6	75
Tenterbanks ... ... ...	3	14
Holmcroft ... ... ...	11	55
Northfield ... ... ...	14	15
St. Patrick's Sec. Mod. ...	8	22
St. Patrick's Primary ...	2	44
Trinity Fields ... ... ...	1	17
Flash Ley Infants' ... ...	16	32
Flash Ley Junior ... ...	—	26
Silkmere ... ... ...	10	28
Highfields Junior ... ...	—	74
Highfields Infants' ... ...	23	88
Burton Manor ... ... ...	10	80
Riverway ... ... ...	—	22
Kingston ... ... ...	3	61
Rising Brook Sec. Mod. ...	—	82
King Edward VI ... ...	2	62
Outside Schools ... ...	7	3
Welfare Centre		
School Clinic	650	108
Private Doctors		

The following table gives an indication of our state of immunisation :—

TABLE No. 5

	Number of Children Immunised			Number of babies born during preceding year minus deaths under 1 year
		Primary	Re-immunised	
1951 ...	550		528	615
1952 ...	469		482	677
1953 ...	462		212	658
1954 ...	604		571	655
1955 ...	411		302	653
1956 ...	485		457	607
1957 ...	564		1,725	656
1958 ...	569		363	647
1959 ...	715		1,209	693
1960 ...	670		1,402	773
1961 ...	835		1,290	792

From the year 1950 to 1960 there were 7,426 children born and from 1951 to 1961 there were 6,334 primary immunisations, giving an overall immunisation of 85%.

TABLE No. 6

**Infectious Diseases Notified in 1961**

Notifiable Diseases	Cases at all ages	Deaths	Case Distribution as to Wards				
			North	South	East	West	Baswich
Scarlet Fever ...	19	—					
Poliomyelitis ...	7	1	—	2	1	—	...4
Pneumonia ...	9	—	1	1	2	4	1
Dysentery ...	48	—	—	—	—	48	—
Measles ...	620	—	71	174	103	86	184
Erysipelas ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	1	—	1	—
Tuberculosis ...	16	3	1	—	9	4	2

## **Poliomyelitis**

There were seven cases notified—four Paralytic and three Non-Paralytic. All cases were removed to hospital and one patient died.

Primary immunisations during the year were 4,666 and 3,963 third injections were carried out.

Since the commencement of Poliomyelitis immunisation, in all, 19,097 persons received primary injections and 12,913 of these had a third or "booster" dose after at least seven months.

## **Smallpox**

The total number of vaccinations carried out during the year was 466, which included 283 before the first birthday.

Re-vaccination totalled 150.

## **Scarlet Fever**

The 16 notified cases, with the exception of one adult, occurred in children under the age of eight years. They were in no particular district.

## **Pneumonia**

These nine notified cases occurred in the March quarter and five were in Institutions. With the exception of one, all cases were elderly people.

## **Measles**

Of the 620 cases notified, 450 occurred in the June quarter. With the exception of three patients who were in their 'teens, all cases were children.

## **Whooping Cough**

The two notified cases were young children. 518 Primary and 138 Booster Immunisations were carried out during the year.

## Tuberculosis

TABLE No. 7

### Notified Cases

		Age in Years			
		2—25	25—45	45—65	65+
Pulmonary ...	Male	3	1	6	1
	Female	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary ...	Male	—	—	1	—
	Female	1	2	1	—

The " Balance Sheet " for the T.B. Register is as follows :—

On Register at Jan. 1st	167	Deaths	...	...	3
Notifications ...	16	Recovered	...	...	4
Transfers in ...	13	Transfers out	...	...	10
		On Register at Dec. 31st			179
	196				196

Admissions to and discharges from Institutions were notified as follows :—

	<i>Admissions</i>	<i>Discharges</i>
Groundslow Sanatorium ...	... 7	... 5

**Analysis of New Cases and Deaths**

TABLE No. 8

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS				Death Rate per 1,000 population	
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
1961	10	4	—	2	3	—	—	—	0.06	
1960	5	11	—	—	1	—	—	—	0.02	
1959	3	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	0.02	
1958	14	2	—	—	2	1	—	1	0.07	
1957	16	7	1	—	5	1	—	—	0.10	
1956	9	7	—	—	5	1	—	—	0.17	
1955	16	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	0.12	
1954	16	14	3	2	2	—	—	—	0.07	
1953	29	17	1	6	5	—	1	1	0.17	
1952	20	13	1	—	4	1	—	—	0.13	
1951	15	18	1	1	2	1	—	—	0.07	
Ten year average 1939-48	11.9	9.2	2.8	3.7	9.0	5.8	1.5	1.4	Mid- year 1943	
Ten year average 1929-38	21.9	15.6	7.7	5.3	12.6	7.8	2.8	1.7	Mid- year 1933	

## HOUSING

The Borough Surveyor, Mr. T. H. Higson, has kindly supplied the following information :—

Houses erected by Corporation between 1/1/61 and 31/12/61	...	...	...	...	...	95
Houses erected by private enterprise between 1/1/61 and 31/12/61	...	...	...	...	...	313
Staffs. County Council	...	...	...	...	...	10

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1961

The number of medical examinations carried out on employees of the Corporation is given in the following table. These examinations cover the Sick Pay and Superannuation Schemes.

TABLE No. 9

Sick Pay		Superannuation	
Males	Females	Males	Females
1	—	43	10
TOTAL — 54			

## Public Health Propaganda

During the year, posters covering a wide range of public health propaganda have been displayed in various parts of the town. Members of the staff have given talks to various Bodies on Food Hygiene and many other aspects of public health.

## Royal Brine Baths

Mr. A. Beazor, Baths Superintendent, has kindly supplied the following report on the activities of the Royal Brine Baths :—

“ Attendances during the year were again satisfactory for recreational swimming, but the decline in numbers using the remedial baths still continues. Warm baths have now reached a steady level.

The provision of a large swimming pool is a ‘Must’ in the near future, the swim gets very overloaded during the summer period and changing accommodation leaves much to be desired.

Attendances for the years were as follows :—

Fresh-water swim	...	157,984
Lessons	...	2,559
Private warm baths	...	18,142
Brine swim	...	5,065
Private brine swim	...	3,463 ”

## Births and Stillbirths

TABLE No. 10

Year	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	Birth Rate for England and Wales
1951	701	17.4	19	20	16.7
1952	674	16.5	9	13	15.5
1953	672	16.5	17	24	15.7
1954	674	16.46	20	28	15.0
1955	627	15.18	17	26	15.0
1956	668	16.13	15	22	15.7
1957	680	16.20	17	24	16.1
1958	693	16.09	20	28	16.4
1959	801	18.21	16	19	16.5
1960	813	18.23	29	34	17.1
1961	854	17.9	15	17	19.4

TABLE No. 11

Year	Live Births	Under one month		Under one year	
		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births
1951	701	16	22.8	24	34.2
1952	674	12	17.8	16	23.7
1953	672	9	13.4	17	25.3
1954	674	12	17.8	21	31.2
1955	627	14	22.3	20	33.3
1956	668	14	20.9	22	32.9
1957	680	12	17.6	16	23.5
1958	693	8	11.54	13	18.76
1959	801	24	29.37	28	34.7
1960	813	13	15.99	21	25.83
1961	854	14	16.39	21	24.59

## Mortuary

The following bodies were admitted to the Mortuary :—

Borough residents ...	...	...	...	...	67
Non-residents who died in the Borough...				...	3
Brought in from outside the Borough ...				...	20
Borough residents who died outside the Borough					3
Non-civilians ...	...	...	...	...	—
					—
					93
					—
Post-mortem examinations			...	...	89
					—

# Registrar-General's Short List of Causes of Death

TABLE No. 12

		TOTAL	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	3	3	—
Syphilitic disease	...	1	—	1
Meningococcal infections	...	1	1	—
Measles	...	1	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung Bronchus	...	12	12	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	...	11	6	5
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	...	10	—	10
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	...	2	—	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	40	20	20
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	1	—	1
Diabetes	...	4	2	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	57	25	32
Coronary disease, angina	...	71	48	23
Hypertension	...	20	9	11
Other Heart Diseases	...	123	51	72
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	21	7	14
Influenza	...	10	2	8
Pneumonia	...	19	10	9
Bronchitis	...	30	15	15
Other diseases of the Respiratory System	...	5	3	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	3	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	1	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	3	3	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	1	—	1
Congenital Malformations	...	5	3	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	55	25	30
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	8	7	1
All other Accidents	...	12	7	5
Suicide	...	2	1	1
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>270</b>



# **REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Stafford can now be regarded as having largely solved the immediate slum clearance problem. This is an impressive achievement and one of which the town as a whole can be proud. Still one hears of people having to live in "deplorable" and "shocking" houses. When these instances are investigated, often the story is of a house which is not unfit but which lacks even the basic amenities.

At present, houses are simply classed as either fit or unfit, judgment being based upon the factors contained in Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957. This would be fair enough if it is accepted that that is a modern standard, acceptable to present people in today's social conditions. In fact, the 1957 standard is surprisingly similar to the recommendations in the Manual on Unfit Houses in 1919. Put another way, there is a sound basis for arguing that the standard of fitness today is little better than that recommended over forty years ago. Nor is that all, since the best that present legislation can achieve is to ensure that a house is maintained to its original level of repair—but still be without those basic amenities which, though they might have been regarded as luxuries when the house was built, are now essential amenities for decent living.

What are these amenities? A fixed bath, an interior water closet, a wash-hand basin, a ventilated foodstore, and a hot water supply to the sink, wash-hand basin and bath.

In this age of tremendous scientific advancement, is it too much to expect that every house which has a useful life remaining should have these facilities? More important still, what about the people living in these houses. As members of the health team we believe it is man's birthright to be able to enjoy decent housing standards—how else can the dignity of man be achieved within his house and a house become a home.

There is also the financial appeal. New houses are so expensive that it is self-evident that the existing stock of houses in the country should be used to the best possible advantage.

It is not suggested that slum clearance programmes should receive anything but top priority—obviously the worst evil should be eliminated first. Nor is it suggested that unsound houses should be perpetuated. What is suggested is that towns, such as Stafford, where the slum problem is well under control, can now consider the problem of the sub-standard house.

It is recognised that the numbers involved are considerable, and that if countrywide reconditioning and modernising of houses started over-night, the strain on the building industry and the allied trades might well prove to be intolerable.

So far, attempts to achieve modernisation of houses have been dependent upon the initiative of owners. This has been so for a number of years and the figures available demonstrate that while the response from owner occupiers has been reasonable, the landlord of rented houses has, in general, not taken up the opportunity of grant aid for modernisation.

In 1960, it was estimated that in the country there were about 5 million owner occupied houses and some 5.9 million houses owned by private landlords. Up to the end of 1959 the number of houses improved with the help of grants was 209,921.

Of greater interest are the local figures for private houses :—

	<i>Owner/ occupiers</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	
Discretionary Grants completed	...	69%	... 31%*
Standard Grants completed	...	83.6%	... 16.4%

\*This 31% includes a large number of houses owned by one of the local factories. If it were not for those, the percentage would be reduced to 7.7%.

The facts speak for themselves. It now becomes a matter of policy as to what is done about this state of affairs. What, in fact, can be done ?

Still, as always, in the armoury of the Health Department is persuasion—and experience has demonstrated in other fields how useful this can be if used with the proper technique.

Intensive propaganda still makes a worthy contribution, particularly if directed on a personal basis. More use might be made of loans to cover the balance of the total cost of works of improvement remaining after payment of grant.

Should a family in a sub-standard house now to be considered for re-housing on those grounds, to free the house to encourage improvement work ?

Where the owners are willing to sell, the Council should consider buying such houses and themselves carrying out the work.

Compulsory purchase could be considered but obviously this should only be as a last resort.

The above remarks have been primarily concerned with "private" houses. They apply also to certain Council owned houses. To us there is no distinction—we are concerned with people living under sub-standard conditions, not who collects the rent. Morally, perhaps, we ought first to put our own house in order. To this end the Corporation has made a worthwhile start and we hope to see this continued.

There is an enormous amount of good to be done and there is a feeling that not only is the time opportune but that there must not be much delay otherwise it might be too late and a new generation of slums engendered.

Before commencing the detailed sections of this report, may I record my thanks to each member of the staff for the way they have carried out their work during what has been a non too easy year. To the Chairman and Members of the Committees concerned with the work of the Department, my thanks are due for the unfailing support given.

F. G. ASHCROFT,  
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

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## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

#### SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL INSPECTIONS

The tabular statement below, and the sections which follow, are presented to me by the Public Health Inspectors as a condensed record of the major duties carried out by them during the year.

As a record, the following figures are invaluable, but they should not be considered as anything more than a record. It is unfortunate that it is not possible to record the work of the Department other than by statistics. Those engaged in this type of work know only too well that a visit might well consist of an hour of careful and patient effort to help a distressed complainant—or it might mean eight hours' non-stop meat inspection in a slaughterhouse. The good resulting is incalculable, but the record merely indicates "one" visit.

		No. of Inspections	No. of Notices				
			Informal		Statutory 2	Complied with	
			1	2		1	2
To dwellinghouses ...	...	1,184	202	—	189	—	—
Verminous houses ...	...	10	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences ...	...	45	11	—	8	—	—
House drainage defects ...	...	679	90	—	81	—	—
Accumulation of refuse ...	...	39	9	—	9	—	—
Overcrowding ...	...	10	—	—	—	—	—
Water supply ...	...	93	—	—	—	—	—
Samples from Public Baths		7	—	—	—	—	—
Factories (inc. bakehouses and food preparing premises) ...	...	232	28	—	28	—	—
Slaughterhouses ...	...	1,292	36	—	36	—	—
Shops where food is sold ...	...	484	43	—	43	—	—
Mobile Food Vans ...	...	63	8	—	8	—	—
Fried Fish Shops ...	...	16	5	—	5	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	...	124	10	—	10	—	—
Dairies ...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Piggeries ...	...	40	8	—	8	—	—
Market ...	...	93	12	—	12	—	—
Ice Cream Shops ...	...	77	3	—	3	—	—
Cafes and Canteens ...	...	68	12	—	12	—	—
Licensed premises ...	...	10	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to notifiable diseases		53	—	—	—	—	—
Sewer Swabs ...	...	68	—	—	—	—	—
Atmospheric Pollution ...	...	96	6	—	6	—	—
Other nuisances ...	...	61	—	—	—	—	—
Re-housing of families ...	...	40	—	—	—	—	—
Caravans ...	...	38	2	—	2	—	—
Refuse Tips ...	...	24	—	—	—	—	—
Pet Shops ...	...	12	—	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts (Improvement Grants) ...	...	605	44	—	36	—	—
Certificates of disrepair with certificates of cancellation		2	—	—	—	—	—
Number of food and milk samples purchased for analysis ...	...	357	—	—	—	—	—
Complaints received at the office of foods purchased...		73	—	—	—	—	—
Interviews ...	...	737	—	—	—	—	—
Housing Survey ...	...	1,178	—	—	—	—	—
Rodent Control ...	...	76	—	—	—	—	—
Unclassified complaints ...	...	206	—	—	—	—	—
Noise ...	...	37	—	—	—	—	—
Dust ...	...	18	—	—	—	—	—
Agriculture Act ...	...	22	—	—	—	—	—
Clearance Area Houses	...	128	—	—	—	—	—

## Water Supply

Stafford now has three main sources of supply, all are boreholes. Most of the town is supplied from Milford and Shugborough ; the Newport Road and Eccleshall Road areas being supplied from Gnosall. All supplies are chlorinated prior to entering service reservoirs before distribution.

Mr. Plant, the Corporation's Water Engineer, has kindly supplied the following :—

“ The first full year's working of the enlarged Water Undertaking was completed on the 31st March, 1962.

During this period the capital works at the Hollies Pumping Station, Gnosall, were finished and the full output of this Station—approximately 2,000,000 gallons per day—is now available.

A substantial mainlaying programme has been in progress during the past twelve months, much of it in connection with alterations required for the M.6 Motorway and the electrification of British Railways. Every effort has been made to reduce the inconvenience to consumers occasioned by these alterations to a minimum.

In addition, main extensions for private housing development both within and outside the Borough have been on a substantial scale.

The programme of rural main extensions in the Eastern Parishes of Stafford Rural District has now been completed.

Total consumption for the year ended 31st March, 1962, amounted to 1,361,307,000 gallons, an increase of 209,957,000 gallons over the previous year.

The consumption per head for all purposes based on a population supplied of 67,000, now averages 55.66 gallons per head per day.”

Throughout the year the supply was adequate and at no time was it necessary to restrict supply. Most of the 13,508 houses have an internal supply of water, though some of the older type of houses still have to rely upon taps in the washhouse, but as demolition proceeds, the number of such cases decreases. No houses are supplied only by standpipes. Routine sampling by the Health Department is carried out throughout the year to ensure the quality of the waters as collected and as they reach the consumer's tap. This year 10 samples were submitted for chemical analysis ; below is a report on typical samples.

	Samples submitted in the 4th Quarter		
	Gnosall Pumping Station	Shug- borough Pumping Station	Milford Pumping Station
	Parts per Million		
pH Value ... ... ...	7.1	7.3	7.3
Total solid matter dried at 212°F.	445.0	270.0	475.0
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	0.016	0.004	0.020
Albuminoid ... ... ...	0.012	0.024	0.032
Nitric Nitrogen ... ... ...	2.0	5.5	3.4
Chlorine present as Chloride ...	25.0	32.0	102.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F.	0.02	0.15	0.25
Appearance ... ... ...	Colourless	Colourless. Minute trace of suspended matter	Colourless
Injurious metallic contamination	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Hardness ... ... ...	356.0	160.0	246.0
Carbonate Hardness ... ... ...	248.0	102.0	160.0

The Public Analyst reports that the waters are not liable to plumbago solvent action. In addition, 56 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory. Of these, 21 were taken during distribution, 31 at the reservoir following chlorination and 4 of the raw waters.

### Public Swimming Baths

Stafford's Brine Baths consist basically of a main pool, brine pool and facilities for private brine baths.

The main pool is 80 foot 6 inches long and 33 foot wide, the depth being from 3 foot to 6 foot. Total water capacity is 86,000 gallons. Water is supplied initially from the town's mains and recirculated through the treatment plant, the capacity of which ensures a complete change of water every  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Before re-entry to the main pool, the water is passed through rapid filters, heated and chlorinated.

The brine pool is 33 foot long and 14 foot wide, the depth varying from 2 foot to 4 foot 6 inches. Its total capacity is approximately 15,000 gallons of brine heated to 96°F. Operated on the fill and empty principle, the pool is filled directly from the brine main from the salt works, the brine strength being 28%. Normally the pool is filled each Thursday and operated on Thursday, Friday and Saturday before emptying.

The Department is equipped to carry out spot checks to determine the free chlorine available and regular samples are submitted for bacteriological examination. All the samples this year were satisfactory.

## **Drainage and Sewerage**

The Borough Engineer has supplied the following information :

Additions to the surface water sewers as follows :—

$4\frac{1}{4}$  miles of 9", 12" and 18" diameter.

Additions to foul water sewers :—

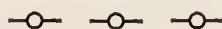
$3\frac{1}{2}$  miles of 6", 9" and 12" diameter.

Complaints regarding 957 foul water drain obstructions were received and the drains, which were cleared by the Corporation workmen, involved a total of 2,149 houses.

## **Sewage Disposal**

Owing to the layout of the sewers and the flat nature of the district, all sewage has to be pumped to the Brancote Works. This is carried out by 11 pumping stations, the maintenance of which is vital to ensure efficient functioning and to prevent the discharge of crude sewage to brook courses. On average, the Brancote Works deals with 2.1 million gallons of sewage daily. With the constant variation in the composition of the sewage, particularly trade waste, the task of producing a final effluent of Royal Commission standard is a considerable one. As the trade waste increases and new estates develop, the load on the works increases and the Committee is actively considering the situation.

Routine sampling of the final effluent is carried out periodically and results, with appropriate comments, made available to the Health Committee.



# Factory Act, 1937

## 1 — Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ...	17	31	6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ...	158	151	22	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises) ... ...	24	30	—	—
TOTAL ...	199	212	28	—

## 2 — Defects Found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Re-medied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness ...	18	18	—	—	—	
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ... ...	2	2	—	—	—	
Sanitary Convenience :						
(a) Insufficient ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ... ...	14	14	—	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL ...	34	34	—	—	—	

### 3 — Outworkers

Nature of Work (1)	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of out-workers in August required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
(+ Making Wearing (+ etc., apparel (+ Cleaning (+ and (+ Washing	8	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following table shows the work done during the year in connection with the destruction of rats and mice in the Borough.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agricultural
(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (Inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)		
(i) Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ...	54	13,508	2,431	15,993	19
(ii) Number of properties inspected as a result of : (a) Notification ...	18	144	66	228	2
(b) Survey under the Act	5	103	7	115	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ... ... ...	66	558	249	873	12

	TYPE OF PROPERTY					(5) Agricultural	
	Non-Agricultural				(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)		
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling Houses (Inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (includ- ing Business Premises)				
(iv) Number of properties inspected (in Sect. (ii) which were found to be infested by :							
(a) Rats	Major ...	5	9	19	33	2	
	Minor ...	5	91	20	116	—	
(b) Mice	Major ...	7	8	25	40	—	
	Minor ...	1	13	2	16	—	
(v) Number of infested properties in Sect. (iv) treated by the L.A. ...	18	121	66	205		2	
(vi) Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ... ...					Figures not readily available		
(vii) Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :							
(a) Treatment ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Structural work (i.e., Proofing) ... ...	—	--	—	—	—	—	
(viii) Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of notice under Sect. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(ix) Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(x) Number of "Block" control schemes carried out							

## HOUSING

### 1. Council Houses Certified Unfit :

- |             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| North Walls | 115, 116, 117, 118 |
| Gaol Road   | 8 and 9            |
| Bath Street | 2, 4               |
| Tenterbanks | 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 |

2. *Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made :*

Gaol Road	19, 20
Eccleshall Road	41
Clark Street	11, 12, 13, 14

3. *Houses in respect to which Closing Orders were made :*

Clarkes Buildings	2, 3
Castle Street	1, 2, 3
Red Lion Street	4, 6, 7
Mill Bank	33

4. *Informal Action resulting in Demolition :*

Nil

5. *Clearance Areas Represented :*

No. 38—Grey Friars	21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34
No. 39—Eccleshall Rd.	10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22
No. 40—Eccleshall Rd.	21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35
	} Snows Yard 14, 15, 16
No. 41—}	and
	} Foregate St. 39
No. 42—Union Buildings	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
No. 43—Foregate Sq.	12, 13, 14, 15, 16
No. 44—Mill Bank	25, 26, 27, 28, 29

6. *Houses where re-housing took place :*

Individual Unfit Houses	11
Clearance Area Houses	18
Houses adjoining Clearance Areas	1

7. *Council Houses Demolished :*

Gaol Road	8, 9
Cherry Street	28, 29, 30
Chapel Street	7

8. *Houses Demolished :*

(a) *Demolition Orders :*

Lichfield Road	2 (Bowens Cottage)
Cherry Street	28, 29, 30
Chapel Street	7
Gaol Road	8, 9

(b) *Clearance Area Action :*

Grey Friars	45, 46, 47, 48
Sash Street	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13

(c) *Houses on Land Coloured Grey :*

Nil

## **Rent Act, 1957—Certificate of Disrepair**

One Certificate of Disrepair was issued during the year. There were no revocations for certificates previously issued.

## **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954—Improvement Grants**

Fifty-one applications were received and 110 completed under the above scheme. The grants paid totalled £21,894 10s. 0d., and the total value of the work involved was £61,466 16s. 0d.

Since the commencement of the scheme, 397 applications have been completed.

## **House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959—Standard Grants**

Thirteen applications were received, 18 completed and 1 withdrawn under this scheme. The grants paid totalled £2,004 15s. 1d. for the completed work and the cost of the work involved was £4,328 0s. 10d.

Since the commencement of this scheme 51 applications have been completed.

## **Moveable Dwellings**

During the year two licences were issued authorising the use of land as caravan sites. One licence related to 2 caravans and the other to three caravans. In each case, conditions appropriate to the nature and use of the site were attached to the licence. Due to work on the motorway, the Contractors have established a site for their employees and as such, this site does not require a licence.

## **Disinfestation of Houses**

Five houses were disinfested during the year for vermin. This shows a large decrease over the past year when seventeen houses were similarly disinfested. The general standard remains high within the town, there being only three serious infestations.

## **Closet Accommodation**

It is estimated that there are now only 296 waste water closets in the Borough.

There were 10 conversions carried out during the year with the usual grant of 50/- paid to owners to encourage them to abolish this type of closet. This slow rate of conversion would seem to indicate that with present building costs, 50/- is an inadequate incentive.

## **The Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957**

No licences were issued by the Council under the above-mentioned Order, there now being fourteen licences in force. Each installation has been visited during the year to ensure that swill boiling is effectively carried out.

## **Offensive Trades**

There is one Gut Scraper registered and his premises are within the curtilage of a semi-public slaughterhouse.

## **Smoke Abatement**

Progress continues though the results often go unheralded. A considerable amount of work is involved in checking the specifications for proposed boiler installations to determine that they can be operated without the production of smoke. A more difficult and critical task is the determination of the chimney height required under Section 10 of the Clean Air Act. Both these aspects of the work of the Department are true examples of the preventative measures employed by the Health Department, about which the public has little or no knowledge.

With the replacement of the old boiler at the Public Baths by a modern high efficiency one, a further reduction in atmospheric pollution has been achieved.

Plans are in hand to commence pollution recording for the first time within the Borough. Next year will see the introduction at Rising Brook of the first of a series of instruments which will, over a period of time, permit an assessment to be made of the levels of pollution.

## **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Six licences were issued during the year to persons to keep Pet Shops.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

The following premises are registered :—

Preparation of sausage, etc.	...	...	21
Manufacture of ice cream	...	...	3
Sale of ice cream in pre-packed containers...			135
Fish frying	...	...	17

The principal trades of food shops in the Borough is as follows :—

General 83 ; Grocers 46 ; Greengrocers 13 ; Butchers 40 ; Fishmongers 12 ; Confectioners 15 ; Sweet Shops 15 ; Cafes 24.

## **Meat and Other Foods—Slaughtering Facilities**

There are two private slaughterhouses within the Borough ; Messrs. Rowlands and the Stafford & Stone Co-operative Society.

Messrs. Rowland's premises are of a semi-public type, as they dress carcases for butchers from other districts as well as those at Stafford.

Slaughtering is done outside office hours and dressed carcasses are inspected on Sundays. 1,292 visits were paid by the Inspectors during the year.

### **The Slaughterhouse Act, 1958**

### **The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958**

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958**

The 1st January was confirmed as the appointed day for the coming into force of the remaining construction Regulations and it is to the credit of the owners that the slaughterhouses were brought up to the new standard so rapidly and without dispute.

### **Carcases Received, Inspected and Condemned**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ...	6,541	841	561	21,896	14,132
Number Inspected ...	6,541	841	561	21,896	14,132
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS. Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	8	13	15
Portions of carcasses with Organs ... ... ...	78	10	2	12	67
Organs only ... ...	1,266	450	4	598	945
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ...	20.6	54.7	2.49	2.8	7.26
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Portions of carcasses with Organs ... ... ...	—	—	—	—	329
Organs only ... ...	4	1	—	—	191
Percentage of the Number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ...	0.06	0.01	—	—	3.68

Total weight of meat condemned—17 tons 13 cwts. 62 lbs.

Cysticercus Bovis was found in 40 animals.

## **Unfit Food**

Certificates were issued confirming the unfitness of foods reported to the Department by Provision Merchants in the town. The items were :—

202 tins of fruit ; 244 tins of tomatoes ; 72 tins luncheon meat ; 192 tins of salmon ; 69 tins of peas ; 59 tins of ham ; 58 tins of evaporated milk ; 52 tins of corned beef ; 45 tins of baked beans ; 36 tins of soup ; 15 tins of broad beans ; 3 tins of runner beans ; 6 tins of butter beans ; 6 tins of beetroot ; 4 tins of spaghetti ; 1 tin of rice pudding ; 10 tins of irish stew ; 14 tins of ox-tongue ; 15 tins of beef steak ; 5 tins of turkey ; 2 tins of jellied veal ; 9 cartons pig's livers ; 18 lbs. pig's kidneys ; 15 tins of crab ; 22 tins of pilchards ; 17 tins of sardines ; 6 tins of apricot jam ; 20 lbs. of dried apricots ; 1 box of dates ; 3 tins of marmalade ; 2 tins of orange drink ; 2 tins of coffee ; 6 tins of apricot jam ; 6 tins of cream ; 71 lbs. cheese ;  $73\frac{3}{4}$  mellow creams ; 232 lbs. frozen fish fillets ; 6 lbs. prawns ; 1 stuffed suckling pig ; 229 bars of chocolate ; 28 lbs. of unsalted butter ; 1 gallon tin of cockles ;  $54\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. fresh meat.

## **MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1960**

### **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1960**

No. of persons issued with Dealer's Licence for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk ... ... ... ... 18
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### **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1960**

No. of persons issued with Dealer's Licence for the sale of Pasteurised Milk ... ... ... ... 23
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No. of persons issued with Dealer's Licence for the sale of Sterilised Milk ... ... ... ... 27
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No. of persons issued with Dealer's Licence for the sale of designated Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) ... 20
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## Sampling of Milk

During the year samples of the various milks were regularly submitted to the Public Analyst for testing for adulteration or deficiencies, and to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacteriological examination.

Designation	No. of Samples taken	Satis.	Unsatisfactory Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Neg.	Pos.
Tuberculin Tested ...	22	17	5	—	2	—
T.T. (Pasteurised) ...	50	50	—	—	1	—
Pasteurised ...	67	67	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	29	29	—	—	—	—
	168	163	5	—	3	—

The milk samples submitted for Chemical Analysis are as follows :—

126 samples of milk, two of which proved to be under the required standard, i.e., samples numbered 918 and 960. In each case, follow-up samples were satisfactory.

Submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford, for bacteriological test were :—

168 samples submitted, of which five failed the methylene blue test.

						NUMBER
RETAILERS OF RAW MILK :—						
Milk from own cows ...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Milk from cows of other producers						3
RETAILERS OF HEAT TREATED MILK :—						
Retailers receiving milk from licensed Pasteurising Plant which is within the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Retailers receiving milk from Pasteurised or Sterilised Plants outside the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	143

## ICE CREAM SAMPLING

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
14	...	1	—

The Grade 3 sample failed the methylene test in 2 hours.

## SAMPLING OF OTHER FOODS

Samples of a wide range of food were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, who has given the following report :—  
63 samples submitted for chemical analysis :—

Luncheon Meat Loaf (2) ; Dried Vegetables (1) ; Soups (3) ; Indian Mutton Curry (1) ; Beef Goulash (1) ; Sausage (4) ; Tea (1) ; Table Creams (1) ; Suet (3) ; Butter (2) ; Meat Pudding (1) ; Orange Squash (1) ; Pure Lemon Juice (2) ; Peanut Butter (1) ; Meat Paste (1) ; Salmon Spread (1) ; Minced Beef (1) ; Malt Vinegar (1) ; Cod Roe (1) ; Chicken Supreme (1) ; Coffee (2) ; Tomato Puree (1) ; Italian Cheese (2) ; Cream Cheese (2) ; Paprika (1) ; Celery Salt (1) ; Vegetable Juices (1) ; Gelatine (1) ; Instant Dessert (1) ; Farmhouse Butter and Cheese (1) ; Beef Loaf (1) ; Single Cream (1) ; Tinned Cream (1) ; Marmalade (1) ; Minced Turkey (1) ; Ground Almonds (2) ; Jelly (1) ; Pure Lard (1) ; Jam (1) ; Mint Jelly (1) ; Minced Pork (1) ; Ground Nutmeg (1) ; Kipper Savoury (1) ; Dressed Crab (1) ; Flan (1) ; Marzipan (1) ; Mincemeat (1) ; Brown Sugar (1) ; Christmas Pudding (1).

### Samples not up to Standard

*Sample No. 387—'Golden Lea' Luncheon Meat Loaf.*

15.5% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.  
(Representations were made to the manufacturers).

*Sample No. 399—Pure Lemon Juice.*

Contains only 1 mgm. per fluid oz. of Vitamin C instead of the usual 14 mgms. per fluid oz.

(Representations were made to the manufacturers).

*Sample No. 418—Cream Cheese.*

Contains only 34.6% of fat whereas Cream Cheese usually contains 50.0% fat.

(As a result of representations to the manufacturer, the designation of the product was amended).

*Sample No. 419—Farmhouse Butter and Cheese.*

Misleading description since chief ingredient is added water with cheese next and butter as smallest ingredient. Label should have list of ingredients.

(Following representations to the producer, the label was amended).

*Sample No. 435—Condensed Cream of Onion Soup.*

Contains only 5.8% of fat including 2.75% of butter fat, but should contain 7.0% of fat with this proportion of butter fat.

(Representations were made to the manufacturer).

*Sample No. 439—Real Minced Pork in Jelly.*

6% deficient of its proper proportion of meat, containing 65.8% instead of 70.0%.

(Representations were made to the manufacturers).

## **Unfit Food**

A disturbing feature this year has been the number of instances of unfit food and foods containing foreign objects, which the members of the public have found necessary to bring to the Department. In one case it was necessary to institute proceedings concerning the sale of pre-packed sausages in an unfit condition.

The Magistrates imposed a fine of £10 0s. 0d. plus £5 5s. 0d. costs.



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